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BOOK REVIEWS.

All book reviews are by the Editor-in-Chief unless otherwise expressly stated.

History of The University of Virginia 1819-1919. "The lengthened shadow of one man."—By Philip Alexander Bruce, LL.B., LL.D. Author of *Economic, Instructional and Social Histories of Virginia in the Seventeenth Century*; *Plantation Negro as a Freeman*; *Rise of the New South*; *Life of General Robert E. Lee*; *Brave Deeds of Confederate Soldiers*; *Short History of the United States*. Centennial Edition in Four Volumes. New York. The Macmillan Company.

Volumes 1 and 2 of this exceedingly valuable and interesting history have been upon our table. We took the large volumes up with some hesitancy, but had greater hesitancy in laying them down; for Dr. Bruce has written a work as absorbing in interest as it is valuable in material, and we were not satisfied to lay the books down except for important business, and in the hours devoted to reading we let nothing interfere with our completion of these first two volumes. We are eager to see the complete work. The first volume is devoted to the inception of the University idea, and contains a very just and sympathetic study of Thomas Jefferson, and concludes with the building of the University. It presents vividly and with an impartial pen the terrible struggle Mr. Jefferson and the friends of the University had with adverse legislatures and with the "peanut" politicians who were in evidence then as now.

Working out almost dramatically and with great care, Dr. Bruce brings out the nature of the struggle and the final success that crowned this great work of Mr. Jefferson's declining years.

The second volume concludes the building of the University and takes up its early history; the selection of professors; the wide scope of the various "schools"; the organization of the institution and its early working. The difficulties owing to location, to discipline to the class of young men, splendid, independent, but disposed to be unruly, are treated in such a manner as to make them as interesting as events in a novel; and while many of us must regret that such things had to be, nevertheless they were, and the historian had to detail them. The tragic life of Francis Walker Gilmer—that brilliant young genius who perished in the prime of early manhood—gives occasion to the concluding chapters of Volume 2, and with his visit to London to select professors, much of this volume is devoted. Whilst chronologically it might have come a little earlier in the volume, it loses nothing, nor is the unity of the volume in any way impaired by its position. Dr. Bruce has given to this work a devotion and sincerity of purpose which make every friend and lover of the University his debtor. It is written in an easy, well-conceived and smooth style, which makes its perusal delightful. We commend it not only to Virginians and the Alumni and friends of the University, but to the reading public at large, as worthy of admiration, to be read alike with pleasure and profit by every one interested in the history of education and the history of this country.